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Dated: March 25, 2004

Signature: _____

(Diane Blevins)

Docket No.: 397272000800
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yung-Nien CHANG, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/020,472

Filed: October 30, 2001

Art Unit: 1648

For: REGULATED NUCLEIC ACID EXPRESSION
SYSTEM

Examiner: U. Winkler

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed September 25, 2003 (Paper No. 11), for which an initial period for response was set to expire December 25, 2003. A petition for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to this Office Action is filed herewith extending the period for response to March 25, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Claims 1-21 were rejected. Claim 2 was cancelled. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.